# COMET: K1 Centre

## Pro²Future – Products and Production Systems of the Future

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main location</th>
<th>Linz, Upper Austria (at Johannes Kepler University Linz)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other locations</td>
<td>Graz, Styria (at TU Graz); Steyr, Upper Austria (at Profactor GmbH)</td>
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### Research programme

The Pro²Future initiative builds on top of the consortiums expertise in mechatronic systems, networked embedded systems, cyber-physical systems, smart/pervasive/ubiquitous systems, systems of systems, big data analytics and data-driven predictive models, semantic and intelligent systems, and will explore innovative ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) for production systems and future products. The main emphasis is on cognitive systems.

### Planned realisation and outcomes

Pro²Future attempts for next generation products and manufacturing machinery (holistically combining batch and continuous process industries), with embedded cognitive capabilities so as to perceive, understand, interpret, learn, reason and deduce, and act in an autonomous, self-organized way together with humans. This includes three major scientific areas, each taken from foundational and goal-oriented research disciplines related to cognitive systems, namely (i) Perception and Aware Systems, (ii) Cognitive Robotics and Shop Floors and (iii) Cognitive Decision Making, ultimately delivering the technological underpinning of (iv) Cognitive Products and (v) Cognitive Production Systems.

### History of establishment

The competence center founded in 2017 is endorsed by the Provinces of Upper Austria and Styria, Austria’s strongest provinces in industrial leadership. The two provinces together take a 42% share of all Austria’s industrial production, employing 45% of all Austria’s industrial employees – at R&D quota of 3.18% (Upper Austria) and 5.16% (Styria), compared to the average of 3.09% (Austria, 2015). Pro²Future is concerted with established Austrian COMET K1 (SCCH, WOOD, KNOW, RCPE) and K2 (LCM, Mobility) Centres, is part of the National Platform Industrie 4.0, and is an essential player within the Linz Institute of Technology (LIT) and the Smart Factory Initiative of TU Graz.

### Selected company partners (max. 10)

1. AMAG Austria Metall AG
2. AVL List GmbH
3. EPCOS OHG – TDK
4. FRONIUS International GmbH
5. KEBA AG
6. Poloplast GmbH & Co KG
7. Siemens AG
8. Trumpf Maschinen Austria GmbH & Co KG
9. voestalpine Stahl GmbH
10. Wacker Neuson Beteiligungs GmbH

### Selected scientific partners (max. 5)

1. Johannes Kepler University Linz (JKU Linz)
2. Graz University of Technology (TU Graz)
3. PROFACTOR GmbH
4. Austrian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence (OFAI)
5. evolaris next level GmbH

### Selected international partners (max. 5)

1. German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI)
2. Technische Universität München, Germany
3. University of Stuttgart, Germany
4. Université de Lorraine, France
5. Uppsala universitet, Sweden

### Duration of the K1 Centre

COMET K1 4th Call: April 2017 – March 2021 (4 years, 1st funding period)

### Staff employed at the Centre

56.5 FTE (thereof 42 scientists)

### Total costs

COMET K1 4th Call: EUR 17.3 Mio (4 years, 1st funding period)

### Management of the Centre

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Alois Ferscha, JKU Linz, CEO & Scientific Director
Mag. Heimo Theuretzbacher-Fritz, CEO & Business Director

### Contact:

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1 Partners with headquarters outside Austria

The COMET Centre is funded within COMET – Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies – by BMK, BMDW as well as co-financing federal provinces. The COMET programme is managed by FFG. >> [www.ffg.at/comet](http://www.ffg.at/comet)

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